

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

POLICY GUIDE 2015.18

MANDATORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE EXEMPTIONS

DATE: October 1, 2015

TO: All DCFS and Private Agency Child Welfare Staff and Supervisors

FROM: George H. Sheldon, Acting Director



EFFECTIVE: Immediately

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy Guide is to communicate the necessity to document any medical condition that makes school attendance not possible.

II. PRIMARY USERS

Primary users of this Policy Guide are DCFS and Private Agency Child Welfare Staff and Supervisors.

III. BACKGROUND

In order to be consistent with Title IV-E state plan requirements, this Policy Guide clarifies school attendance policy in relation to wards who are unable to attend school.

IV. MANDATORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

While attendance in school is expected for all youth in care, there are some situations in which school attendance is not possible. This includes certain placements required to meet the ward's medical needs. When a child is incapable of attending school on a full-time basis due to a medical condition, information related to that condition shall be documented in the case record and service plan. The Permanency Worker is responsible for ensuring that this documentation is in the case record and service plan.

V. QUESTIONS

Questions regarding this Policy Guide may be directed to the Office of Child and Family Policy at 217-524-1983 or via Outlook at "OCFP – Mailbox". Non Outlook users may e-mail questions to cfpolicy@idcfs.state.il.us.



VI. FILING INSTRUCTIONS

File this Policy Guide immediately following **Procedure 314, Education Services**.